

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A support for a trap, the support comprising:

a base;

a positioning member extending from the base for positioning a first jaw of the trap; and

a retractable engaging member extending from the base for engaging a second jaw of the trap without hindering movement of the second jaw to a closed position,

wherein the retractable engaging member is movable between a first trap engaging position and a second retracted position, and

wherein the retractable engaging member includes a coil spring coupled to the base and having a first leg engaging a detent on the base and a second leg for engaging the trap.

2. (Original) The support of claim 1, wherein the base includes a plurality of legs.

3. (Original) The support of claim 1, wherein the base is freestanding.

4. (Original) The support of claim 1, wherein the positioning member includes a plurality of trap contacting legs extending from the base.

5. (Original) The support of claim 4, wherein each trap contacting leg extends from the base at an angle.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The support of claim 1, wherein the first jaw and the second jaw are biased to close by a biasing member, and the trap further includes a trigger for releasing each jaw to close upon activation.

9. (Currently Amended) In combination, a trap and a trap support, the combination comprising:

a body-gripping trap including a trigger for releasing each jaw to close upon activation;

and

a support for the body-gripping trap including:

a base;

a positioning member extending from the base for engaging one of the jaws of the body-gripping trap; and

a retractable engaging member extending from the base for engaging the other jaw of the body-gripping trap,

wherein the retractable engaging member is movable between a first trap engaging position and a second retracted position, and

wherein the retractable engaging member includes a coil spring having a first leg engaging a detent of the trap and a second leg for engaging the trap.

10. (Original) The combination of claim 9, wherein the base includes a plurality of legs adapted to allow the base to be freestanding.

11. (Original) The combination of claim 9, wherein the body-gripping trap extends substantially perpendicular from the base in a set state.

12. (Original) The combination of claim 9, wherein the positioning member includes a plurality of trap contacting legs extending from the base.

13. (Original) The combination of claim 12, wherein each trap contacting leg extends from the base at an angle.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The combination of claim 9, wherein the body-gripping trap includes:
a biasing member to bias each jaw to close.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of supporting a trap, the method comprising the steps of:

contacting a first jaw of the trap to a positioning member of a support, the support including the positioning member and a freestanding base;

engaging a second jaw of the trap with a retractable member of the support to support the trap; and

setting the trap by setting a trigger that holds the first and second jaw in a set position against a bias of a trap biasing member,

wherein the retractable member includes a coil spring, and the engaging step includes contacting the second jaw with a leg of the coil spring.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the setting step occurs after the engaging step.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

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